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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF THORNEY

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND OF

SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1937.

June 1938.

F.E.Crawley,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF THORNEY.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit herewith my first Annual Report on the health of your district.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. E. CRAWLEY.

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health:- W.D.T.Brunyate,D.M.,D.P.H. (to May 22nd).
F.E.Crawley.M.D.,D.P.H. (from May 23rd).
who is also Assistant County Medical Officer.

Sanitary Inspector)
Inspector of Cowsheds) T.A.C.March, M.S.I.A.,Cert.R.S.I.
Inspector of Meat & Foods)

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)...	21,796.
Population (Registrar General's estimate mid-1936)	2,304.
Inhabited houses (according to rate book, end of 1936.	590.
Rateable value	£5,791.
Produce of 1d rate	£19.10.

VITAL STATISTICS.

		Total.	Male.	Female.
Live Births.	Legitimate.	34.	18.	15.
	Illegitimate.	1.	1.	
Still Births.		1.	0.	1.

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population ... ... 15.19.

Birth Rate England and Wales ... ... 15.50.

Still Birth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 28.57

Deaths. Total 24. Male 15. Femals 9.

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population. 10.42.

Adjusted Crude Death Rate ... ... 11.67.

Death Rate for England & Wales. ... ... 12.4.

There were no deaths from Puerperal causes during the year.

Death rate of infants under one year of age -

All infants per 1,000 live births ... ... 85.71.

Infantile Death rate per 1,000 live births for England & Wales... ... ... 58.

Owing to the small numbers from which these statistical figures are compiled it is not possible to make justifiable inferences from a comparison of these figures with those of preceding years.

TUBERCULOSIS.

	New cases.				deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F	M.	F.
0-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65- and upwards		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS).

The district was remarkably free from notifiable infectious disease, the only notification being of a case of Scarlet Fever. Just as last year, Thorney's good fortune continues for several minor epidemics of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria occurred in the Isle and in the adjacent areas a number of sporadic cases of these diseases arose. Minor epidemics of Measles and Whooping Cough occurred among the school children.

TABLE.

Disease.	Under 1 Year.	1.	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	Total cases notified
Small Pox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Notifiable Diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Deaths - Nil.

HOSPITAL PROVISION FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Further progress has been made with the Scheme for the provision of a Joint Isolation Hospital for the Northern half of the County, and plans have been submitted. In the meantime the existing arrangements for the treatment of patients at Wisbech Isolation Hospital continues when necessary.

SEWAGE WORKS.

The sewage plans continues to work satisfactorily.

SCHOOLS.

Within a few years a new Council School will be erected in Thorney and will be an improvement much appreciated in the village. School closure was not necessary during the past year.

WATER SUPPLY.

The new sluice at the 'Dog in a Doublet' has now been completed and enables Thorney to obtain an ample supply of water even in times of drought. In addition it has kept out the tidal water of the River Nene and salt is now no longer a troublesome constituent. The slow sand filtration plant is still working inefficiently and heavy dosage with chlorine is necessary to keep the water safe. Recent advice on the working of the filter has given hopes that the filter may soon be restored to perfect function.

Northside, Thorney is still without the piped supply it was hoped to obtain this year, and there is no immediate prospect of this supply being obtained.

The water supply to the other parts of the district is unchanged but, although the Council are anxious to provide a piped supply throughout the district, the magnitude and heavy cost of the scheme make this impossible in a district of such low rateable value without considerable financial assistance which, at the present moment, is unavailable.

HOUSING.

The inhabitants of the district are fortunate in the provision of satisfactory housing conditions. No houses have been discovered to be infested with bed bugs or other vermin.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

1. (a). Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	3.
(b). Number of inspections made for the purpose.	7.
2. (a). Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925.	nil.
(b). Number of inspections made for the purpose	nil.
3. Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	nil.
4. Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	3.

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority of their officers.	3.

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

1. Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.	nil.
2. Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-	
(a) By owners.	nil.
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners.	nil.

(b). Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. nil.

2. Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-
   (a) By owners. nil.
   (b) By Local Authority in default of owners. nil.

(c). Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. nil.

2. Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. nil.

(d). Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act 1936.

1. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. nil.

2. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit. nil.

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936. Part IV. - OVERCROWDING.

(a). (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year. 4.
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein. 4.
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein. 31.

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year. nil.

(c). (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year. 1.
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases. 9.

(d). Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding. nil.

(e). Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report. nil.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1936.

FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT OF THORNEY IN THE COUNTY OF THE ISLE OF ELY.

On the Administration of the Factory and Workshop Act 1901, in connection with:-

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

1. Inspection of Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces. Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises. (1)	Inspections (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers prosecuted. (4)
FACTORIES (including Factory Laundries	2.	-	-
WORKSHOPS (including Workshop Laundries)	3.	-	-
WORKPLACES (other than Outworkers premises	-	-	-
TOTAL.	5.	-	-

2. DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars. (1)	Number of defects. Found (2)	Remedied (3)	referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	Number of offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted. (5)
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts.				
Want of cleanliness.				
Want of ventilation.				
Overcrowding.				
Want of Drainage of Floors.				
Other nuisances.				
Sanitary accommodation	Insufficient unsuitable or defective. not separate for sexes.		N I L.	
Offences under the Factory & Workship Acts.				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse.				
Other offences. (Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order 1921).				

OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES, SECTION 108.

NATURE OF WORK	Instances.	Notices served.	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Wearing Apparel- Making etc. Cleaning and Washing.			
Household linen.			
Lace, lace curtains & nets.			
Curtains & furniture hangings.			
Furniture and Upholstery.			
Electro Plate.			
File making.			
Brass and Brass articles.			
Fur pulling.			
Cables and Chains.			
Anchors and grapnels.			
Cart gear.			
Locks, latches & keys.			
Umbrellas etc.			
Artificial flowers.			
Nets, other than wire nets.			
Tents.			
Sacks.			
Racquet and tennis balls.			
Paper etc. boxes, paper bags.			
Brush making.			
Pea picking.			
Feather sorting.			
Carding etc. of buttons etc.			
Stuffed Toys.			
Basket Making.			
Chocolates and sweetmeats.			
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings etc.			
Textile weaving.			
Lampshades.			

Signed F.E.Crawley. M.D.,D.P.H.
Medical Office of Health.

June 1938.

SANITARY INSPECTION.

I append herewith Mr. March's Annual Report.

I have the honour to be Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. E. CRAWLEY.

Medical Officer of Health.

THORNEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1937.

Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my fourth Annual Report of the Sanitary and other work carried out, together with details of the year's working of the Sewage Disposal Works and Waterworks for the year ending December 31st. 1937.

I am pleased to be able to reiterate my statement of last year, that the general sanitary conditions of the district are excellent, only two complaints were received during the year, these being of a minor character which were abated after the service of informal notices.

The only regret is, that it has not been found possible to lay a piped water supply to those parts of the district which depend upon rainfall, because of the impossibility of raising the necessary money.

The supervision of the Waterworks and Sewage Disposal Works has claimed the majority of my time so that the total of 114 visits of inspection is somewhat below last year's total.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

Routine and special Inspections	12.
Revisits after order or notice	15.
Housing Inspections	3.
Inspections of Workshops including Bakehouses	5.
" Slaughterhouses and Foodshops	46.
" Cowsheds	28.
" Petroleum Stores	4.
Rooms disinfected	1.

NOTICES SERVED. During the year 4 informal notices were served dealing with 4 houses. No Statutory Notices were served.

COWSHEDS. There are 20 Registered Cowkeepers and one retail purveyor. There was no cause for complaint during the year.

MEAT & FOOD INSPECTIONS. The usual inspections of carcases have been carried out at the two slaughterhouses, and no meat was condemned.

Under the Slaughter of Animals Act 1933, two Licences to Slaughter animals were renewed. No infringement of the Act occurred.

PETROLEUM ACTS. At the close of the year there were 16 petrol stores licensed, one new licence having been granted.

The total amount of petrol which may be stored on licensed premises is 9,200 gallons.

There are 14 Carbide of Calcium stores licensed, the total amount of Carbide which may be stored on licensed premises is 8 tons, 1cwt. 6 st.

WATER SUPPLY. During the year 3,856,200 gallons of water were pumped with a consumption of 3,515 units of electricity for actual pumping; 495 units were used for lighting and heating the panels &c. The cost of electricity used amounted to £30 ; 17 : 8.

The average amount pumped per day was 10,594 gallons using 9.6 units, this shows an increase in the consumption of electricity as compared with last year which was caused by a depreciation in the efficiency of the pumps.

This inefficient working could not be rectified immediately owing to its coincidence with the sudden illness and death of the attendant and the difficulty of finding a fully qualified deputy.

These cicumstances are reflected in the average number of gallons of water pumped by one unit of electricity, which was 1,097 as compared with last year's figure of 1,520 gallons.

The condition of the water has remained fairly constant throughout the year, the dose of chlorine required having varied between 1.30 and 2.00 parts per million.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL. The sewage pumping plants have worked satisfactorily throughout the year, 9,386,390 gallons of sewage being discharged on to the sewage field.

The amount of electricity used at the main pumping station was 5,045 units, which includes that used for heating and lighting.

At the pumping station on the Wisbech Road, 1,236,890 gallons of sewage were pumped with a total consumption of 1,180 units.

The total cost of electricity for disposing of the year's sewage was £123 : 17 : 4. or an average of 315.7 gallons for one penny as compared with 285.5. gallons for one penny last year.

CONCLUSION. It again gives me great pleasure to have the opportunity of expressing my thanks to your Council for the support given to me during the past year and also to your Clerk (Mr. Whittome) and his staff for their valued assistance in connection with my duties,

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

T. A. C. March.

Sanitary Inspector.

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